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May 11, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket #98N-1038, "Irradiation in the production, processing and handling of food."

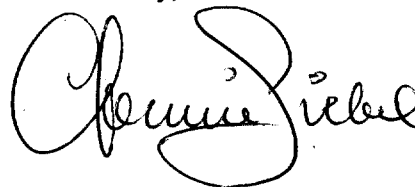
Sirs,

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to proposed removal of all labeling requirements for irradiated food. I am of the opinion that, as a consumer, I am entitled to knowing the products and the quality of the products I buy. Irradiated food should be prominently labeled using the terms "irradiation" or "irradiated" and the radura symbol, and all irradiated components should be identified. Labeling otherwise would be misleading to the customer who expects a quality product with all the nutritional values intact. Labeling requirements should be indefinite and not allowed to expire.

Irradiation should not be a substitute for sanitary processing conditions. (It could even encourage unsanitary production conditions.) Personally, I do not want to eat irradiated foods in any form.

Thank you for taking note of these comments.

Sincerely,



Copy: Senator Baucus  
Senator Burns

98N-1038

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